RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Select unions are given this privilege in view of their administrative efficiency.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether that principle has been extended with regard to the election of Vice-Chairman in the Vadakkekara Union?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Not yet, Sir.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether there is any reason for that?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: There are three unions selected from the Quilon Division and the question of the Vadakkekara union will be considered by Government.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: In answer to Part (*c*) may I know whether the complaint was in writing or oral?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: It is not clear. But the Tahsildar has reported that there was a complaint from the Honourable Member.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know when that complaint was made?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: After the nomination of the Vice-President.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the date when that complaint was made?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: In June 1944.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the nature of the action taken in the matter since the receipt of that complaint?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: No action had to be taken on that.

Hand-made Paper Industry.

194 ✻**SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA** (*Nominated*): With reference to the hand-made paper industry, will the Government be pleased to state the steps taken by the Department of Industries to popularise it as a cottage industry and the results of the efforts so made?

MR. E. I. CHACKO (*Director of Industries*): 1. The Department conducts a Hand Made Paper Demonstration Unit at Trivandrum where :—

(*a*) apprentices are trained.
(*b*) demonstration is given in hand-made paper manufacture,
(*c*) experiments are conducted with a view to devising cheap and efficient methods for the manufacture of different kinds of paper.

2. Steps are being taken to organise a Central Hand-made Paper Unit with the different smaller hand-made paper units situated in various parts of the State affiliated to it.

3. The Department of Industries is helping the different Hand-Made Paper Units by:—
(*a*) giving technical advice,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. E. I. Chacko.]

(*b*) Helping to secure raw materials, and
(*c*) helping to find a market for the products.

Results of efforts made.

1. Seven apprentices have been trained.
2. Enquiries are being received from various places for the organisation of hand-made paper units,
3. A good demand has been created for hand-made paper and allied articles and enquiries are being received from within and outside the State for the supply of the same.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI (*Karunagapalli* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know from Government whether any financial assistance is given to anybody who is engaged in this industry?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: Sir, the industry is in its experimental stage now. The department is trying its best to give a successful demonstration in the matter of production of hand made paper and if it is satisfied that it will be a commercial success, then necessary steps could be taken to think about that matter. At present, Government are considering the question of establishing a central unit for making available the necessary raw materials like caustic soda which are not now available except under control and also for finding a market for the finished products. The question of giving financial assistance to smaller units which may be affiliated to the central unit will be considered.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*): May I know, whether the Honourable Member is aware that this is a cottage industry and would be commercially advantageous to the private agencies if they are willing to take up the manufacture?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: So far as Travancore is concerned, there is not much of commercial success attained so far. But I know this is being profitably done in Virudhunagar by Messrs. Harvey Mills Ltd. It is done there on a grander scale with some machinery and the initial cost of it comes to about Rs. 10,000.

MR. K. A. MATHEW (*Tiruvalla*): May I know from Government what are the raw materials secured by Government for this industry?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: Caustic soda is one of the prime ingredients. We have been able to secure a good quantity of that now for distribution to prospective manufacturers,

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know how many hand made paper units there are in Travancore?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: About a dozen.

MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I know the nature of the ingredients needed for manufacturing hand made paper?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: Waste paper, bamboo and other things. Caustic soda is a very important chemical ingredient. Alum, Resin and a few other chemicals are also equally important.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know whether the units have applied for a grant from the Government?

PRESIDENT: As a matter of fact I have sent for various persons and have stated that the Government are willing to spend about a lakh of rupees in the way of financing co-operative enterprises for the development of this industry. If they take it up as a co-operative concern, raw materials will be made available to them. The Director of Industries has also been told that the Government are prepared to supply the department the necessary caustic soda. The paper produced by hand made processes is generally admired. At least three members of the Viceroy's Executive Council have asked for large supplies and they have been supplied by me. Numerous enquiries are coming from all over India for hand made paper. But I have been very disappointed to find that the production of this paper has not been anywhere able to satisfy the demand we have got. Therefore I have sent for various persons and have instructed the Director of Industries to grant financial assistance up to one lakh of rupees if co-operative enterprises will take them up. I am renewing this offer to the honourable house so that the honourable members may also influence any agency that is prepared to take it up.

MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE: May I know whether any forest products are needed for paper manufacture?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: The forest products like bamboo and *eeta* are useful for pulp making. But we would like to get a machine called Hollender Beater for the purpose; but it is a costly one for which 4000 rupees will be needed. I understand such machines are used in Poona.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI (*Mavelikara* cum *Kunnathur*): May I know who is in immediate charge of this work?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: There is a Cottage Industry Inspector in the department under the Director of Industries. He is in direct charge of this institution.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know who is the expert?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: There is an expert who was trained in Madras and who was later on sent over to one or two other places.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Where was that expert trained?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: First in Madras for a period of six months and later on he was given commercial training here.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know whether the honourable member knows that this was first started recently in Wardha and that some technical improvements were made in it?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: Yes, I am aware of that. But we have got a request for information from the All India Spinners Association which has a branch working in Malabar, to let them know the methods which we are employing for glazing the paper to such a high degree.

MR. P. O. THOMAS (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): May I know for how long the unit at Trivandrum was working?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: About a year now.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know the quantity of paper already made by that unit?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: It will be about fifty reams of foolscap paper. By that time the price of paper went down in the market. So we switched on to some other items like the manufacture of file boards for offices. The Government have placed an order for supplying two thousand file boards. Wrappers, blotting papers and sundries are also manufactured. From Bombay and other places we have very good demand for hand made paper. That being the case, we can give work to other units as well.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know the average cost for one ream of paper made in that unit?

MR E. I. CHACKO: From eight to nine rupees.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know whether the department would make the paper available to the newspaper for printing purposes?

PRESIDENT: But the industry has not yet produced any large quantity of hand made stuff. At present we are unable to do that. If any private bodies will take it up we will give them all facilities and advice in the matter of procuring machinery and for even starting the industry.

MR, E. K. MADHAVAN (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): May I know from the member whether some more centres will be opened up for demonstration purposes?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: After the demonstration was opened by Government there were enquiries from various places. An organisation or two have now applied to us for giving necessary assistance and also to find out experts for them.

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN: From these circumstances, will the member please investigate the possibility of opening one unit in the northern part of Travancore?

MR. E I. CHACKO: I shall be glad to do that.

PRESIDENT: As a matter of fact, it is more correct to say that all the hand made paper that can be produced in the State will be used. It is true to say that during the last year, I have never written except on paper produced in Travancore and I know at least 3 or 4 friends of mine in the commercial world in India who did not use any other paper for correspondence. But our chief difficulty has been to get enough paper of that kind. Again, the writing has to be done with some care and some training is required for that. If honourable members will start a central co-operative organisation for this purpose in Travancore with branches of it in the south and north and if honourable members of this house or other commercial men will start enterprises of this kind, Government will be prepared to give them all necessary assistance. Probably, Government are prepared to lend their experts even and give financial assistance as well, at least to an equal extent to which they raise money and if they are not able to raise money on an adequate scale and if honourable members are earnest about it, Government will be ready to help them that way also. As I said, Government are willing to spend about one lakh of rupees in the present financial year itself on this experiment.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Some of the letter papers and file boards which alone I am u sing now, I shall place on the table of the Secretary. Honourable members can then see how well they can be made. The material is here, the people are very adept in doing this work, the demand is there. The only deficiency was caustic soda, but that is available now. Now, therefore, it is entirely a question of encouraging this cottage industry and thereby adding to the earning capacity of the average villager.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know from the honourable member the cost of running this demonstration centre at Trivandrum for the last one year?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: The initial outlay was Rs. 2,000 and the cost of running will depend upon the outturn.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*): ഈ മേശയിൻമേൽ വച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ബ്ലാട്ടിംഗ് പേപ്പർ ഹാൻഡ്മെയിഡ് ആണോ എന്നു പറയാമോ?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: No, Sir. I understand that the blotting paper is supplied from the Stationery Department, and that it is made by hand by some other institution.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The Hindu Mission is working a unit and they are supplying these blotting papers.

Industries Board.

195. ✻ **MR. M. L. JANARDHANA PILLAI** (*nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the State Aid to Industries Board is now functioning;

(*b*) who are the present members;

(*c*) what is the amount given on loan during 1117, 1118 and 1119; and

(*d*) what is the amount spent by Government for working this special branch of the department?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Messrs. 1. E. I. Chacko, Director of Industries, (*Chairman.*)
2. K. C. Karunakaran, B. A., B. com., Alleppey.
3. N. Ramakrishna Pillai, B. A., B. L., Government Pleader, Alleppey.
4. James Fletcher, Advocate, Trivandrum.
5. K. Madhava Kurup, Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Trivandrum.

(*c*) 1117 ... Rs. 2,210.
1118 ... Rs. 1,800.
1119 ... Rs. 2,000

(*d*) The total amount spent for the T. A. of members of the Board for the years 1117, 1118 and 1119 is about Rs. 395-6-0.

There is no special branch in the Department for the purpose, but one of the members of the staff (Auditor) looks after this work.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly